Statement

Number of applications received through District Passport Cells for issue of passports from each district in Chhattisgarh from January 2002 to 31st December 2004

Sl. No.	Name of District	Number of Applications		
		2002	2003	2004
1	Bastar	0	14	24
2	Bilaspur	16	83	103
3	Dantewada	1	5	19
4	Dhamtari	0	0	1
5	Durg	7	98	165
6	Janjgir	2	6	9
7	Jashpur	0	2	0
8	Kanker	0	0	3
9	kawardha	0	8	1
10	Korba	3	27	31
11	Koriya	0	39	51
12	Mahasamund	2	10	11
13	Raigarh	0	9	46
14	Raipur	114	708	712
15	Rajnandgaon	9	37	71
16	Surguja	0	4	3
	TOTAL:	154	1050	1250

Denial of access to Mukherjee Commission in Moscow

1714. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mukherjee Commission, probing the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, had been denied access to archives in Moscow; and

(b) if so, what diplomatic initiative had been taken to persuade Moscow to allow the Commission to have access to its archives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry for Inquiry into the Alleged Disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, during its visit to the Russian Federation from 20 to 30 September 2005, visited the following archives:

(i) Russian State Archive for Social and Political History, Moscow

(ii) Russian State Archive for Audio Documents, Moscow

(iii) Russian State Naval Archive, St. Petersburg

(iv) Central State Archive, St. Petersburg

(v) State Archive, Omsk Region

(vi) State Archive, Irkutsk Region, and

(vii) Private Archives of Prof. Eva Ya. Luistemik at the Institute of Oriental Studies in Moscow.

2. According to the Russian legislation (Archive Law of 2004), which is applicable not only to representatives of foreign countries but also Russian citizens, access to classified archives, without any exception, is given only to a strictly defined category of officials.

3. Despite the above Law, taking into consideration the interest of the Indian side, the Russian Government had competent authorities conduct a detailed study of these archives and copies of all documents found with the name of S.C. Bose, had been handed over to the Indian side. These, in turn, have been given to the Justice Mukherjee Commission.

Pendency of Passport applications in Kerala

1715. PROF. P.J. KURIAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Passport applications pending in Kerala as on date;

(b) the average time taken to issue a Passport after submitting the applications; and

(c) the steps taken to reduce this time period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The number of Applications pending after receipt